

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 QUITO 08521 081534Z

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ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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O P 081437Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2448

UNCLAS QUITO 8521

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, EC (BISSELL, JANE ELLEN)

SUBJECT: W/W JANE ELLEN BISSELL

1. AN AMCIT, JANE ELLEN BISSELL, DISAPPEARED IN ECUADOR OCTOBER 3. HER TRAVELING COMPANION, AN AUSTRALIAN NAMED GERALDINE CROUCH, IS BELIEVED TRAVELING IN CHILE AND ARGENTINA AND USING THE BRITISH EMBASSY FOR MAIL. PLEASE TRY TO CONTACT HER AND PUT TO HER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS. EXPLAIN TO HER THAT THEY ARE IMPORTANT TO THE INVESTIGATION.

2. (A) DID BISSELL TRAVEL TO BANOS WITH ANYONE? DID SHE PLAN TO MEET ANYONE THERE?

(B) THE POLICE INVESTIGATION INDICATES THAT THERE WAS A TALL, THIN, BEARDED NON-ECUADOREAN IN THE CAR WITH YOU AND BISSELL ON OCTOBER 1 ON TRIP FROM COCA TO QUITO. WAS HE KNOWN TO YOU? WHO IS HE? POLICE INVESTIGATION ALSO INDICATES THAT YOU WERE WITH A CHILEAN NATIONAL IN BANOS. WAS THIS ON OCTOBER 5TH? WAS HE ALREADY IN BANOS WHEN YOU ARRIVED, OR DID HE TRAVEL WITH YOU? WHAT IS HIS NAME? IS HE THE SAME PERSON WHO WAS ON BUS FROM COCA TO QUITO?

(C) ACCORDING TO THE POLICE REPORT, BISSELL TOLD ONE OF THE DRIVERS OF THE CAR YOU TOOK FROM COCA TO QUITO ON OCTOBER 1 THAT SHE PLANNED TO GO NEXT TO TULCAN. WAS THIS REALLY HER INTENTION? IF SO, WHY DID SHE CHANGE PLANS AND RETURN TO BANOS WHICH SHE HAD PASSED THROUGH ON OCTOBER 28 ON HER WAY TO TENA?

(D) WHEN YOU ARRIVED IN BANOS ON OCTOBER 5, WAS THE PENSION OWNER ALREADY AWARE THAT BISSELL WAS MISSING? WHICH OF YOU ACTUALLY NOTIFIED THE POLICE? HAD POLICE BEEN ALERTED TO HER

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DISAPPEARANCE BEFORE YOUR ARRIVAL OCTOBER 5? THIS IS IMPORTANT

BECAUSE POLICE REPORT SEEMS TO INDICATE THAT OWNER REPORTED  
DISAPPEARANCE OR WAS AWARE OF IT AS EARLY AS OCTOBER 3.

(E) WAS THERE EVIDENCE THAT BISSELL HAD ACTUALLY SLEPT IN ROOM?  
HOW DID YOU DEDUCE THAT BISSELL HAD DISAPPEARED ON SUNDAY, THE  
THIRD, RATHER THAN THE 4TH OR 5TH? HAD SHE TAKEN BREAKFAST AT  
THE PENSION ON THE 3RD?

(F) IN YOUR CONVERSATION WITH RICHARDSON ON OCTOBER 7 YOU  
MENTIONED THAT YOU HAD SEEN BISSELL'S CAMERA AMONG HER EFFECTS.  
WHEN HER EFFECTS WERE TAKEN IN CUSTODY BY THE EMBASSY THERE WAS  
NO CAMERA. THERE WAS HOWEVER A CAMERA FLASH ATTACHMENT WHICH  
IS SIZE, SHAPE AND COLOR RESEMBLES A CAMERA. IS IT POSSIBLE THAT  
YOU MISTOOK THE FLASH ATTACHMENT FOR THE CAMERA?

(G) WHEN YOU VISITED THE PENSION ON OCTOBER 5, WERE BISSEL'S  
EFFECTS STILL IN THE CALLE MALDONADO ANNEX OR IN THE MAIN  
BUILDING? WHAT WAS DONE WITH THEM? WHEN WERE THEY  
REMOVED BY THE POLICE?

(H) WE HAVE CONFIRMED THAT BISSELL SPENT THE NIGHT OF OCTOBER 1  
IN THE HOTEL GRAN CASINO IN QUITO.. WAS SHE WITH ANYONE OR  
ALONE? DID YOU STAY AT THE GRAN CASINO THAT NIGHT?

(I) WHAT ARE YOUR TRAVEL PLANS AFTER DECEMBER? WE MAY NEED TO  
REACH YOU AGAIN.

(J) DID YOU REVISED RICHARDSON LETTER SENT TO BRITISH EMASSIES  
LIMA AND LA PAZ OCT 27?

3. FOR SANTIAGO AND BUENOS AIRES: THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.  
BLOOMFIELD

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